

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 27, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
U.S House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C 20510

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chairwoman Granger, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you work to finalize the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, we ask you to consider funding for programs crucial to addressing the integrity of America's elections. Specifically, we urge you to fund the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) at the \$33.8 million outlined in President Biden's FY 2024 Budget proposal, and also include \$400 million for Election Security Grants.

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of our democracy. It is essential that state and local authorities have the support from the Federal Government that they need to maintain voter registration databases, information technology systems, voting systems, secure facilities, polling locations, and staffing to ensure the security of our elections and electoral process. The Department of Homeland Security defines this election infrastructure as "critical infrastructure". Through things like shorter wait times, more efficient information processing, and quicker result announcements, our constituents directly benefit from election administrators having the resources they need to do their jobs well. And when our elections are run well, people are more likely to participate in our democracy and have confidence in a competently and accurately achieved outcome.

Leading up to the 2024 elections, the Brennan Center recently published survey findings from local election officials around the country. They found that 74% of respondents agreed their election budgets needed to grow to accommodate election security and administrative needs over the next 5 years.¹ This is an issue that both Democrats and Republicans agree on. In April, the National Council on Election Integrity, a bipartisan group of former government officials and national security leaders, urged Congress to include at least \$400 million to safeguard our elections from foreign interference.² In May, the Department of Homeland Security issued a bulletin warning that "perceptions" of the 2024 election could result in individuals engaging in violence on critical U.S. infrastructure and election officials.³ Election workers are critical to a well run election and we must ensure they have adequate resources to support voters and ensure their safety.

1 The Brennan Center, April 25, 2023; <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/local-election-officials-survey-april-2023>

2 Issue One, April 25, 2023; <https://issueone.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/NCEI-election-funding-letter-April-2023.pdf>

We urge House and Senate Appropriators to address the devastating cuts outlined in the House bill for the Election Assistance Commission and specifically the complete depletion of Election Security Grants, as you come together on a final negotiated bill. We thank the Committees for its consideration and urge maximum funding in order to further protect our election infrastructure and election integrity.

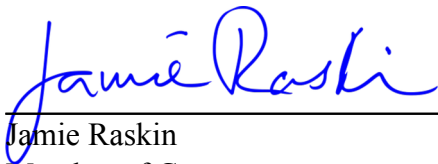
Sincerely,



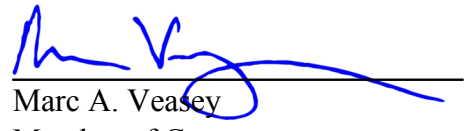
Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress



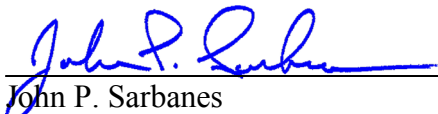
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



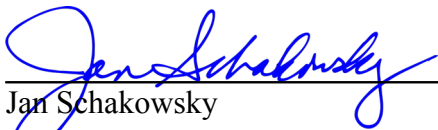
Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



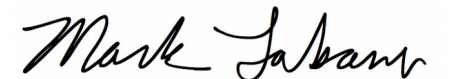
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



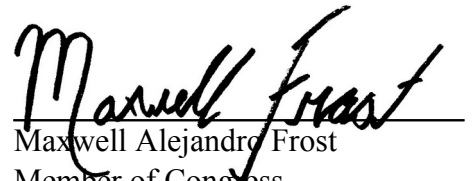
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



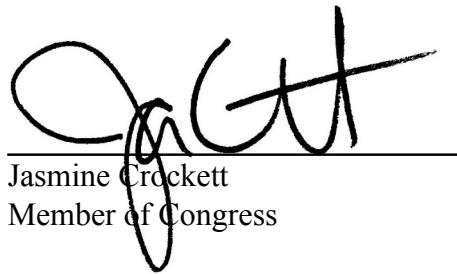
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



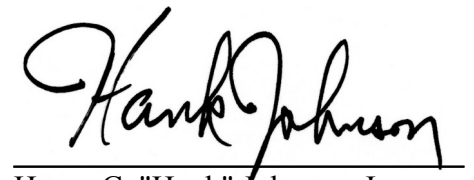
Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



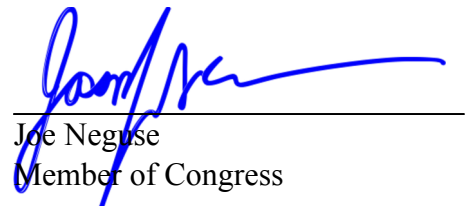
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



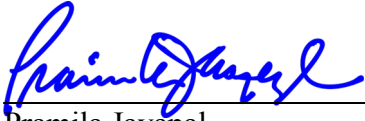
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



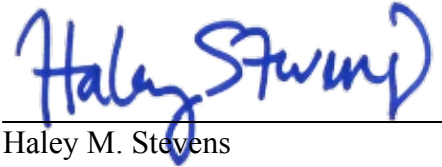
Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



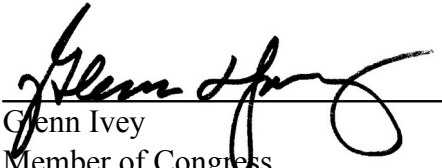
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



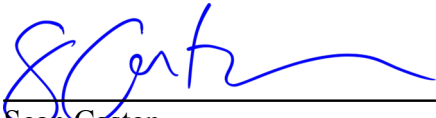
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

André Carson

André Carson
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Brendan Boyle

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill

Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress

David Scott

David Scott
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress